

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING
Tuesday, February 27, 2018 - 7:30 pm – Community Center

Members present: John Lippert, Jane Young, Michael Hartman, Ron Bjorkland, and Susan Barnett. Visitors: Tom Taylor and Bill Orleans.
Excused absences: Matt Dirksen, Eva Fallon, and Josh Hamlin.
Absences: Colin Byrd.
Liaisons: Luisa Robles (staff)

Call to order: 7:35 pm

1. Continue discussion on the issue of adult mosquito control. Showed the recommendation that John put together to the group which the group decided to send to Council. John shared information sent by the founder of the Resilient Design Institute. POC for 3 people: editorial staff, brother-in-law (entomologist Ag Center in FL – adult sterilization), Massachusetts Audubon Society. Ron Bjorkland offered to be the contact person. Tom Taylor, mentioned that MA is one of the places that has good mosquito control.
2. Levying a Sustainability Fee on builders. Susan Barnett saw in the *News Review* about a new hotel being built at the Greenway Center. Big companies come into Greenbelt and affect our environment. She thought perhaps there would be a way to levy a fee for environmental programs/sustainability fund. This could also be done for businesses. Having a fund could help with our environmental projects. Susan talked to Colin and he is going to see if he can take it to Council. Michael Hartman: could this be levied during the permitting phase? Susan: perhaps contacting the Planning Dept. or APB (Brian Gibbons) first to see how the permitting process works. Also perhaps businesses could give an annual fee, something like \$20 per year? Also, we could present a budgetary need to justify the funds – examples: install more hot compost bins, rain gardens, pair all trash cans with recycling bins. Bill Orleans suggests talking to the Planning Dept. first, although right now Terry Hruby is by herself as Celia Craze left a while back and Jessica Bella left a month ago. Conversation ensued. Ideas to levy an environmental fee, like the Rain fee, and if businesses/developers are doing green things, they can avoid the fee; otherwise we could collect (just like the Rain fee/incentives from the County – ask Adam Ortiz how the County did this). Michael Hartman can ponder this idea with Susan. John Lippert mentioned that it would be really hard to measure what are considered sustainability initiatives for the businesses/developers to have the fee waived... Susan, having heard the complications, says perhaps we can incentivize the businesses/developers in a different way. Mike Hunninghake might also have ideas on this. Council might push back on a fee. But how can we get a revenue stream for sustainability programs?
3. Updates from **Sustainability Framework** / Green Team Circles.
 - 3.1 **Energy** / Solar. – SHL solar panels project got approved. Also the RFP for the solar farm. Could the place between the Court House and metro be used as a solar farm? Right now there are plans to be developed for more condos/residential.

Land owned by Capital Office Park, but would be developed by the same corporation that did Greenbelt Station. Michael Hartman will contact Terry H.

3.2 Food Systems / Sustainable Landcare. –

3.3 Green Building. -

3.4 Land Use / Planning / Pathways of Sustainability. -

3.5 Transportation. – DPWT 5 year transit development plan – meeting in the library in the near future. Anthony Foster 301-883-5656

3.6 Time Bank / Local Economies. – Social April 28 at the park 2-5.

3.7 Waste Management / Zero Waste. – Community Impact Grant:

vermicomposting at NDC coming along, electricity issues have been solved (\$9,000 in kind donation from anonymous donor), still working on the cords for the wigwams, the systems come with really short cords, the cord on one of the units had to be elongated, Beth will order the worms for one unit. Hot composting 3 bin system has been built, storage unit built, 22 families have been contacted, collaborating with CHEARS for recruitment, training sessions March 10 and 17. Jason Martin did the research on where to get the materials for vermicomposting for apartment families.

Organics Task Force, survey on municipalities meeting with Takoma Park this Friday, next Friday with UMD, University Park and Greenbelt. Reviewed BioCycle magazine survey, will be doing at least one municipality per week to cover 12 municipalities.

Bill Orleans mentioned that Affordable Waste is not separating trash/recycling.

3.8 Water / Stream / Stormwater Restoration. – Ribbon Cutting for 20 Court Ridge Rain Garden on Sunday, April 22 at 2 pm.

4. For future agendas: MSEC goal of reducing fuel usage. Ask Hyattsville police to talk to our police. Choosing a new chief, meet and greet, ask for a green one, email Nicole. John Lippert, Ron, Michael. Cc Tom Kempt.

5. Upcoming events:

- *March 3 opposition to MAGLEV at Greenbriar

- *March 17 FPAB sunrise cleanup by the dog park.

- *Legislation stuff from Tom Taylor: Styrofoam ban for the entire state

- *2nd Prince George's County Pet Waste Management Summit on March 29, Largo, MD. from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

http://sustainablemaryland.com/nc/events-trainings/?tx_cicevents_eventslisting%5Bevent%5D=273&tx_cicevents_eventslisting%5Baction%5D=detail&tx_cicevents_eventslisting%5Bcontroller%5D=Event&cHash=8a823172c9b062c1599eab51150f2327

6. Adjournment: 9:20 pm